

PATENT
Attorney Docket YO998-086
IBM-178

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Angelopoulos, et al.
Serial Number	:	09/036,458
Filing Date	:	March 6, 1998
Examiner	:	T. Yoon
Group Art Unit	:	1714
For	:	METHODS OF PROCESSING AND SYNTHESIZING ELECTRICALLY CONDUCTIVE POLYMERS AND PRECURSORS THEREOF TO FORM ELECTRICALLY CONDUCTIVE POLYMERS HAVING HIGH ELECTRICAL CONDUCTIVITY

To: The Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the *Decision on Appeal under 35 U.S.C. § 134* dated September 26, 2003, ("the Decision") in which the Honorable Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences remanded the application to the Examiner with the opportunity for Applicants to amend the subject matter of Claim 12 to comply with 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph. Applicants have elected to submit herewith an appropriate amendment of Claim 1 as provided in the "Appropriate Action" section of the Decision.

Original Claim 1 in this case read:

A method comprising:

processing a polymer selected from the group consisting of a precursor to an electrically conductive polymer and an electrically conductive polymer in a solvent comprising a fluorinate solvent, said polymer in said solvent characterized by a dependence of the electrical conductivity of said electrical conductive polymer on the concentration of said polymer in said solvent, said concentration being selected to substantially maximize said electrical conductivity.

The Board in the Decision held that Claim is defective in that there is no indication of how the precursor to an electrically conductive polymer or electrically conductive polymer in a solvent is treated, manipulated or formed. In addition, the Board held in the Decision that the claim does not indicate the results which are to be achieved by the claimed method.

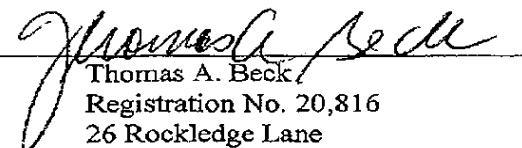
In this amendment, Applicants submit an amended version of Claim 1 for consideration by the Examiner as well as other versions of Claim 1. The versions of the claim as contained in the amendment clearly state how the precursor to an electrically conductive polymer or electrically conductive polymer in a solvent is treated, manipulated or formed. And, in addition, the claim defines the results which are achieved by the claimed method.

Applicants have attempted in this response to amend Claim 1 and to place it in a form which should result in its allowability. If the Examiner wishes to discuss the substance of any of the proposed claims presented herein with the intent of putting them into allowable form, Applicants' attorney will be available to speak with him at a mutually agreeable time and will cooperate in any way possible.

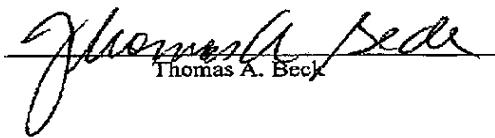
Any fees which result from the claims added herein should be charged to Deposit Account 50-0510

In view of the arguments and modification to Claim 1, allowance of this case is warranted. Such favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,


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I certify that this amendment is being deposited wit the United States Postal Service on the date shown below addressed to Assistant Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Thomas A. Beck October 8, 2003